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Philadelphia 10th August 1779.

My dear Sir,

Your favor of the 2d inst. come to hand by yesterdays post. I am happy that my determination to tarry some time longer meets the approbation of the Committee. My felicity will be greatly increased if it should be within the compass of my small abilities to render my Country such services as not to disappoint the expectation of my constituents. When the more important business of the committee will permit I shall hope for the honor of a line from them agreeably to the expectation of you flatter me with. I shall ever receive their commands with particular satisfaction and obey them with the greatest pleasure. I propose tarrying till some time into October. By that time I hope the business that excites my anxiety particularly at this time will be happily finished but if in the mean time want of health or any other cause should make it absolutely necessary for me to take my leave I shall give due notice. You are too well acquainted with a certain assembly to suppose that engagements are inviolably adhered to by every member. I am inclined to think you are mistaken in your conjecture of the author of Americanus — the person you mention has been suspected but he in the most solemn manner denies that he ever saw or heard of it until he saw it in the News-papers and though I do not always implicitly believe declarations of this kind many concurring circumstances induce me to give credit to this at this time. This kind of scribbling is a little vexatious, but do not think they are attended with any material consequences on either side. I see no danger at present of that importance matter being given up. indeed there would not have been any opposition to its being secured in the fullest manner had it not been for certain cunning designing persons whose residence I wish was farther from N. Y. One of these persons had not been in C. for some considerable time before your departure not since the year 76. However I must defer a particular history of this business till I have the pleasure of a tete a tete conversation. I shall pay due attention to what you say respecting the invalids

P.S.

and shortly write on that subject. I must beg leave to refer you to the papers for news. The accounts from South Carolina are much better than we had a right to expect in the beginning of the campaign. What we have from the West Indies far exceeded every idea. Gen. Waynes enterprise at Stony Point gave a very favorable turn to affairs in that quarter. Indeed the reports from the enemy mention reinforcements, but their reports are in a great measure contradicted by those of better authority.

It is true that Lord Cornwallis is arrived & I suppose it is true that Clinton and several and several other Gen. officers are called home. I shall be happy to hear of your success at Penobscot. There, I must confess I fear a miscarriage; should that be the case we must double our efforts, for it may be depended on that the enemy will endeavor to carry their desolating scheme to as great a length as possible, but I hope the smiles of Heavens on our operations will prevent their putting their infernal plans into execution.

I am with great respect
& sincerity. Yours.
Wm. Whipple.

Col. Barrett.